June 2008

January to March 2008

Alberta's International Merchandise Exports
January – March 2008
Highlights

Overview

In the first quarter of 2008, the value of Alberta's international goods exports grew by 23.4% from the same quarter last year, to a record $25.3 billion. This increase can be attributed to both higher prices, especially of energy commodities (such as crude oil, propane, sulphur and coal) and crops (such as wheat, barley and canola), and higher volumes, which rose by about 10.0%.

Major Commodities

In the first quarter of 2008, exports of crude oil and propane rose 56.6% and 43.9%, respectively, because of strong price and volume gains. Exports of Alberta's number two export commodity, natural gas, increased by 4.2% as strong volume gains more than offset a 5.1% price decline. Higher prices caused large increases for crop exports, such as wheat, canola, barley and durum wheat. The value of sulphur shipments rose five-fold, as prices more than quadrupled. The housing market crisis in the U.S. and the falling American dollar caused exports of lumber and oriented strand board to decrease by 34.7% and 80.2%, respectively. Lower prices caused exports of nickel, live cattle and beef to decline.

Exports by Industry

Mining and energy exports rose 32.2% in the first quarter of 2008; exports of primary agricultural commodities climbed by 38.5%; and manufacturing exports decreased 0.9% from a year ago. Increases for coal, sulphur, propane and crude oil were the primary causes of the increase in mining and energy exports. Primary agricultural exports rose because of a 59.4% jump in crop shipments: barley was up 250.5%; durum wheat was up 142.9%; canola 107.0%; and wheat 62.6%. The decrease in manufacturing exports was largely the result of declines of wood products (down 47.5%), computer and electronic products (down 24.2%) and non-metallic mineral products (down 22.8%). Manufacturing sub-sectors with sizeable export gains include machinery, chemicals, refinery products and plastics.

Exports by Country

Of Alberta's top 50 markets, exports more than quadrupled to Gabon, Kazakhstan, Libya, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Turkey. Aside from exports to the Netherlands and Belgium, exports to each of Alberta's top 15 markets increased in the first quarter of 2008. Of these top markets, the largest increases were registered for Australia (up 103.4%) and Russia (up 96.6%) as a result of large increases for oil and gas field machinery and sulphur; Indonesia (up 85.7% - oil and gas field machinery); and Singapore (up 84.4% - crude oil, nickel and cobalt). Exports to the U.S., Alberta's biggest export market, increased by 21.9% due to large gains for crude oil, propane, sulphur and ethylene glycol. Crude oil, sulphur and ethylene glycol also drove exports to the province's number two market, China, higher (up 40.0%), while canola and coal were the major drivers of a 37.5% rise in shipments to Japan.

Note: Statistics Canada has revised its estimation methodology for crude oil exports. This has led to significant upward adjustments to exports originating in Newfoundland and Saskatchewan and corresponding downward adjustments to Alberta exports.

ALBERTA'S INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE EXPORTS TO TOP 50 COUNTRIES/MARKETS

	January to December			First Quarter		
Countries/Markets	**2006 ($ '000)**	**2007 ($ '000)**	**% Change**	**2007 ($ '000)**	**2008 ($ '000)**	**% Change**
United States	68,705,945	70,898,036	3.2%	18,027,104	21,980,187	21.9%
China	2,173,765	2,807,424	29.2%	664,743	930,590	40.0%
Japan	1,299,381	1,463,503	12.6%	367,435	505,253	37.5%
Mexico	615,278	715,300	16.3%	139,674	173,803	24.4%
Korea, South	431,178	463,967	7.6%	101,241	151,140	49.3%
Pakistan	95,905	101,122	5.4%	53,521	81,533	52.3%
Australia	170,928	209,395	22.5%	38,620	78,540	103.4%
Netherlands	309,256	567,332	83.5%	116,662	77,433	-33.6%
Taiwan	175,860	250,219	42.3%	49,636	76,922	55.0%
Indonesia	172,160	228,652	32.8%	40,628	75,443	85.7%
Russia	142,816	210,995	47.7%	36,946	72,626	96.6%
United Kingdom	239,225	252,390	5.5%	63,281	72,340	14.3%
Singapore	171,192	247,604	44.6%	37,104	68,430	84.4%
United Arab Emirates	142,145	153,319	7.9%	35,367	61,153	72.9%
Belgium	151,571	240,065	58.4%	62,921	61,008	-3.0%
Kazakhstan	37,752	40,730	7.9%	8,904	50,619	468.5%
Italy	124,217	208,426	67.8%	41,522	47,282	13.9%
Saudi Arabia	62,913	88,667	40.9%	9,676	44,780	362.8%
Malaysia	90,164	87,602	-2.8%	21,152	43,287	104.6%
Brazil	93,425	145,784	56.0%	15,699	39,418	151.1%
Algeria	77,904	71,886	-7.7%	26,808	38,098	42.1%
Sri Lanka	87,207	79,358	-9.0%	19,397	35,765	84.4%
France	77,903	80,373	3.2%	25,342	28,003	10.5%
Hong Kong	111,985	132,773	18.6%	25,832	26,685	3.3%
Germany	150,015	125,662	-16.2%	50,095	25,736	-48.6%
Thailand	68,085	79,624	16.9%	25,089	22,841	-9.0%
Venezuela	88,700	108,397	22.2%	30,580	21,806	-28.7%
Philippines	22,117	70,431	218.4%	11,204	21,509	92.0%
Ecuador	34,923	49,315	41.2%	15,795	20,298	28.5%
Colombia	49,605	80,602	62.5%	17,391	19,781	13.7%
India	144,142	111,862	-22.4%	18,386	19,050	3.6%
Bangladesh	36,917	93,195	152.4%	11,990	18,925	57.8%
Peru	48,911	45,335	-7.3%	9,879	18,678	89.1%
New Zealand	37,426	60,462	61.5%	7,726	17,440	125.7%
South Africa	53,628	108,633	102.6%	17,594	17,295	-1.7%
Chile	55,549	75,605	36.1%	13,278	16,604	25.0%
Sudan	35,308	80,952	129.3%	13,842	16,525	19.4%
Cuba	100,834	77,828	-22.8%	19,180	15,322	-20.1%
Egypt	75,921	43,983	-42.1%	8,321	14,722	76.9%
Morocco	31,525	33,553	6.4%	3,863	14,046	263.6%
Vietnam	47,112	67,175	42.6%	13,359	13,757	3.0%
Libya	14,519	19,134	31.8%	3,117	12,881	313.2%
Turkey	21,455	22,624	5.4%	2,324	12,835	452.3%
Spain	54,383	72,457	33.2%	19,613	12,249	-37.5%
Jamaica	12,107	29,705	145.4%	8,610	11,178	29.8%
Switzerland	28,684	31,242	8.9%	6,222	10,388	67.0%
Argentina	16,484	48,656	195.2%	9,141	9,016	-1.4%
Gabon	9,458	9,816	3.8%	1,344	8,891	561.6%
Iraq	48,027	91,832	91.2%	30,511	8,594	-71.8%
Norway	37,750	36,999	-2.0%	6,262	8,103	29.4%
All Other Countries	656,195	574,349	-12.5%	124,840	100,444	-19.5%
Total Exports	**77,739,855**	**81,994,349**	**5.5%**	**20,528,771**	**25,329,250**	**23.4%**

ALBERTA EXPORTS TO ALL MARKETS BY INDUSTRY

EXPORTS BY INDUSTRY	January to December			First Quarter		
	2006 ($ '000)	2007 ($ '000)	% Change	2007 ($ '000)	2008 ($ '000)	% Change
Primary Agriculture	**3,113,725**	**3,826,065**	**22.9%**	**911,631**	**1,262,997**	**38.5%**
Crops	2,291,116	2,988,345	30.4%	662,865	1,056,351	59.4%
Livestock	822,609	837,720	1.8%	248,766	206,646	-16.9%
Primary Forestry, Fishing & Trapping	**3,664**	**3,691**	**0.8%**	**901**	**939**	**4.3%**
Mining & Energy	**53,200,815**	**55,445,344**	**4.2%**	**13,973,500**	**18,470,698**	**32.2%**
Crude Oil*	26,942,339	28,211,003	4.7%	6,254,807	9,790,592	56.5%
Natural Gas & Natural Gas Liquids	25,492,716	26,283,236	3.1%	7,565,339	8,067,150	6.6%
Coal	319,529	404,255	26.5%	75,686	258,050	240.9%
Sulphur	389,977	466,764	19.7%	61,876	330,079	433.5%
Other Mining & Energy	56,255	80,085	42.4%	15,792	24,827	57.2%
Manufacturing	**20,489,167**	**21,841,167**	**6.6%**	**5,440,384**	**5,392,833**	**-0.9%**
Chemicals	7,072,983	7,169,204	1.4%	1,776,262	1,922,491	8.2%
Food, Feed & Beverage	2,635,689	2,719,626	3.2%	707,513	687,654	-2.8%
Machinery	2,035,039	2,697,723	32.6%	585,024	716,032	22.4%
Primary Metal Products	1,513,504	2,310,117	52.6%	567,498	472,773	-16.7%
Paper Products & Wood Pulp	1,415,709	1,351,466	-4.5%	364,009	373,535	2.6%
Petroleum & Coal Products	1,130,750	1,308,808	15.7%	270,299	301,392	11.5%
Computer & Electronic Products	1,320,498	1,080,040	-18.2%	341,068	258,671	-24.2%
Wood Products	1,243,967	886,310	-28.8%	236,598	124,216	-47.5%
Fabricated Metal Products	598,321	794,422	32.8%	196,055	175,195	-10.6%
Transportation Equipment	514,498	507,156	-1.4%	146,884	121,799	-17.1%
Electrical Equipment, App. & Comp.	235,545	293,384	24.6%	59,281	56,204	-5.2%
Plastics & Rubber Products	212,199	234,478	10.5%	49,930	67,392	35.0%
Furniture & Related Products	214,795	200,607	-6.6%	55,506	46,910	-15.5%
Non-Metallic Mineral Products	140,252	101,837	-27.4%	31,598	24,399	-22.8%
Other Manufacturing	205,417	185,988	-9.5%	52,859	44,169	-16.4%
Other Exports	**932,483**	**878,082**	**-5.8%**	**202,356**	**201,782**	**-0.3%**
TOTAL	**77,739,855**	**81,994,349**	**5.5%**	**20,528,771**	**25,329,250**	**23.4%**

* Statistics Canada has revised its estimation methodology for crude oil exports. This has led to significant upward adjustments to exports originating in Newfoundland and Saskatchewan and corresponding downward adjustments to Alberta exports.

ALBERTA'S TOP 50 COMMODITY EXPORTS TO THE WORLD

	January to December			First Quarter		
	00)	2007 ($ '000)	% Change	2007 ($ '000)	2008 ($ '000)	% Change
Commodities	**2006 ($ '00**	75				
Crude oil*	26,934,301	24,708,910	3.2%	7,047,487	7,345,437	4.2%
Natural gas	23,933,762	1,409,635	2.9%	462,868	666,180	43.9%
Propane, liquefied	1,370,468	1,747,243	-2.2%	424,834	468,138	10.2%
Polymers of ethylene nes, in primary forms	1,787,152	1,365,958	33.2%	257,069	417,956	62.6%
Wheat (other than durum wheat), and meslin	1,025,160	851,602	30.0%	192,498	398,465	107.0%
Low erucic acid canola	654,897	1,235,335	15.8%	272,597	392,786	44.1%
Ethylene glycol	1,066,677	466,764	19.7%	61,876	330,079	433.5%
Sulfur	389,973	1,031,780	-6.2%	252,655	253,733	0.4%
Polyethylene having a spec gravity of =>0.94	1,100,005	397,207	25.3%	74,978	253,473	238.1%
Bituminous coal, not agglomerated	3 6,999	1,172,273	50.7%	304,594	207,292	-31.9%
Nickel, unwrought	777,673	711,578	2.1%	213,314	174,513	-18.2%
Bovine animals, live, nes	697,122	704,265	-9.1%	209,492	168,381	-19.6%
Meat of bovine animals, boneless, fresh or chilled	774,800	587,002	0.1%	162,269	157,713	-2.8%
Chemical woodpulp, coniferous	586,661	586,209	-0.3%	143,731	135,955	-5.4%
Low value and confidential commodities	587,937	408,559	-11.0%	112,735	128,081	13.6%
Chem woodpulp, non-coniferous	459,170	498,338	68.9%	110,558	123,002	11.3%
Parts for boring or sinking machinery, nes	294,939	561,812	17.3%	134,929	120,925	-10.4%
Styrene	479,170	602,613	13.1%	108,364	120,613	11.3%
Oil (not crude)	532,975	395,522	17.1%	106,841	117,801	10.3%
Urea	337,690	319,415	7.6%	82,196	98,699	20.1%
Acyclic hydrocarbons, saturated	296,745	338,947	-4.7%	103,007	93,944	-8.8%
Anhydrous ammonia	355,887	414,366	88.6%	101,827	91,929	-9.7%
Pipe/oil line, >16", iron/steel, long sub arc weld	219,662	150,414	80.0%	24,907	87,286	250.5%
Barley	83,546	287,461	-1.4%	66,672	84,084	26.1%
Ethylene, propylene, butylene and butadiene liqifidified	291,534	270,690	78.8%	62,308	83,894	34.6%
Cobalt, unwrought	151,482	279,105	19.7%	69,139	82,757	19.7%
Boring or sinking machinery, not self-propelled	233,174	197,806	20.6%	31,706	77,005	142.9%
Durum wheat	164,030	243,640	-12.6%	59,271	74,140	25.1%
Polyethylene having a specific gravity of <0.94	278,757	230,269	56.7%	40,025	69,359	73.3%
Air/gas pumps, compressors and fans, nes	146,963	430,333	-12.3%	105,218	68,662	-34.7%
Coniferous wood sawn > 6mm thick	490,657	269,495	-5.5%	61,528	67,349	9.5%
Acyclic hydrocarbons, unsaturated nes	285,088	198,542	51.7%	57,640	62,106	7.7%
Surveying instruments and appliances, nes	130,895	309,882	85.2%	69,518	61,437	-11.6%
Canola/colza oil & fractions, low erucic acid, crude	167,253	278,491	84.7%	50,302	55,766	10.9%
Light petroleum oil preparations, e.g. motor gasoline	150,760	130,173	-16.6%	41,709	55,497	33.1%
Butanes, liquefied	156,160	136,709	41.7%	33,448	54,555	63.1%
Malt	96,433	193,669	12.8%	41,732	50,852	21.9%
Semichemical woodpulp	171,674	221,124	0.0%	55,492	50,018	-9.9%
Potatoes, prepared, frozen	221,149	186,185	-17.4%	57,524	48,987	-14.8%
Turbopropellers, not exceeding 1,100 Kw	225,302	151,316	38.3%	24,972	45,662	82.8%
Machines/mechanical appliances w. individual function	109,416	192,338	44.1%	47,944	45,309	-5.5%
Taps, cocks for pipes, vats incl. thermo control	133,544	115,144	38.3%	24,167	35,871	48.4%
Canola/colza oil & fractions, low erucic acid,nes	83,215	163,703	-16.8%	50,722	35,599	-29.8%
Pork, fresh or chilled	196,768	95,751	-3.3%	20,493	35,460	73.0%
Canola oilcake & low erucic acid, nes	98,926	135,100	27.7%	33,251	34,879	4.9%
Engine and motor parts, nes	105,864	123,586	84.0%	19,285	32,386	67.9%
Reciprocating positive displacement pumps, nes	67,116	111,623	0.5%	29,099	31,247	7.4%
Ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers, primary forms	111,083	116,343	128.2%	19,805	29,970	51.3%
Special purpose vehicles, nes	50,967	107,325	-18.9%	27,511	29,188	6.1%
Pork, nes, frozen	132,353	**74,049,745**	**6.5%**	**18,419,834**	**23,545,009**	**27.8%**
TOTAL ABOVE	**69,513,955**	**81,994,349**	**5.5%**	**20,528,771**	**25,329,250**	**23.4%**
TOTAL	**77,739,**	is has led to significant upward adjustments to exports originating in				

* Statistics Canada has revised its estimation methodology for crude oil exports. Th lberta exports.

Newfoundland and Saskatchewan and corresponding downward adjustments to A

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